

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 1949

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 5 • VOL. 16, NO. 6

Dear Local Presidents:



Mrs. L. W. Hughes

Alaska, the Canal Zone—even in Germany and Japan. We are pledged to work for the greatest of all national and international resources—the children. And there is no doubt whatever that today, more than half a century after our founding, we are one of the mightiest organizations for good that can be found in any nation.

- As our fifty-second birthday approaches it might be well to review briefly here some of the outstanding achievements of the National Congress. We have:

- Encouraged by our example other groups to stand up and be counted whenever and wherever issues involving the welfare of our schools and communities are at stake
- Built a backlog of public opinion so strongly in favor of federal aid for education that congressional enactment in the near future of a law giving such assistance is now probable
- Prevailed on state and community lawmakers, on boards of education, and on other agencies to appropriate more adequate funds for teachers' salaries and for improved school equipment
- Helped to keep our public schools open during the years of war and depression
- Donated millions of dollars' worth of equipment to make our schools more functional and pleasant for teachers and pupils
- Raised thousands of dollars in scholarships for students and prospective teachers
- Made it possible for millions of parents and teachers to become acquainted with each other and so better to understand each other's purposes and problems
- Established and maintained thousands of hot school lunches, including the growing and canning of large quantities of nourishing foods
- Arranged for the health examination of more than 2,000,000 preschool children in annual Summer Round-Up campaigns
- Placed hundreds of new child welfare laws on national, state, and local statute books—including more enlightened adoption laws—and kept in force many desirable laws that might otherwise have been allowed to lapse

- Raised standards for the treatment of so-called juvenile delinquents by supporting the establishment of separate courts for minors
- Sponsored and supported hundreds of teen-age centers and other recreational units to discourage juvenile delinquency
- Established thousands of study groups concerned with parent education, child development, and home and family life
- Engaged in scores of adult education projects, including the training of lay leaders for parent education study and discussion groups
- Provided training in leadership for thousands of parents and teachers who had never before participated actively in civic affairs
- Stressed constantly the need to keep our parent-teacher associations democratic in spirit and in action and always to respect the integrity and rights of individuals regardless of their race or creed
- Nor have we neglected to help less fortunate people out-



- The little girl pointing with pride to the Georgia stone in the Plaza of States is Alice Birney Robert, great-granddaughter and namesake of our Founder, Alice McLellan Birney. Her mother, Mrs. Lawrence Wood Robert, Jr., who is our Founder's granddaughter, looks on. It is more than six years since little Alice unveiled the marble shaft at the formal dedication of this beautiful suncourt in memory of her illustrious great-grandmother. Situated on the high school grounds of Marietta, Georgia, Alice Birney's girlhood home, the memorial stands as an impressive tribute to Mrs. Birney and an unwavering reminder of the spirit in which the National Congress was conceived.



Alice McLellan Birney

side our national borders. Since V-J Day, for example, we have sent thousands of dollars' worth of food and clothing to children in lands devastated by war. We have also filled and shipped overseas thousands of teachers' kits containing personal and professional supplies for teachers struggling to carry on against well-nigh insuperable odds.

- Our organization has not rested content with binding up the wounds of past wars, however. We have been actively seeking the ways to lasting peace, for we know that only in a peaceful and prosperous

world can the hopes of future generations, and therefore the Objects of our own organization, be fully realized. Even before the surrender of Germany and Japan representatives of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers maintained direct and frequent contact with leading organizations interested in encouraging good will between nations. More than that, we were in close touch with the State Department itself, the arm of government where American foreign policy is shaped and administered. Responding gladly to the invitation of the State Department, the National Congress sent consultants to attend the San Francisco meetings that brought into existence the United Nations organization. Later ours again was one of the national groups most active in supporting the formation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, which seeks to promote peace "in the minds of men."

- Yes, we have done well as an organization. Clearly, then, it is fitting that we take deep and justifiable pride in honoring Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst, whose good judgment and keen understanding drew for us the blueprints from which we have built so sound a structure. When we devote our February program wholly or in part to a Founders Day feature, we are not "living in the past." We are using the past to illuminate the present and to give bright promise to the future. When we light our fifty-two birthday candles, when we reenact some scene from the lives of our Founders, or when we dress in costumes of earlier times to portray once more a stirring event that was a milestone along the parent-teacher way, we are making it possible for present members to draw inspiration from history and in turn to add fresh chapters of accomplishment.

- So, too, when we suggest that our local associations collect Founders Day gifts, we are actually asking for funds to advance OUR OWN WORK. This is no collection for personal or material gain; this is a drive to make the vibrant present a fit memorial to our vital predecessors. The money for which we ask in February is used to sustain and promote a program that has already won the respectful admiration of educational and civic leaders in our own land and in every land where the purposes of the National Congress are understood. Each parent-teacher unit, however small, shares in that well-earned prestige and is in part responsible for it. For that reason, therefore, I have no hesitation in urging *all* P.T.A.'s to give and to give generously this year to the utmost of their ability. The important tasks we have set ourselves call for both devotion and money. There is no shortage of devotion in our ranks. Let us make equally sure that our best efforts of heart and mind are not defeated for lack of adequate financial backing.

TO ALL MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN

NOW that you have arrived at a fairly quiet interval in the school year, you should begin to question yourselves about the state of your 1949 membership records.

Is your enrollment as large as it was in 1948? Will it reach a 15 per cent increase by April 1? Has your membership committee canvassed your school patrons for new members? Have you made a special effort toward 100 per cent membership in your school? Are there any schools in your county without a Congress unit? Have you talked with your county superintendent about organizing associations in such schools?

You can do your most effective work to increase membership right now. If you have made a good beginning, this is no time to stop. Real achievement is the result of constant diligence.

Responsibility for membership enrollment belongs equally to every one of us—officers, chairmen, and members alike. The functions of our organization—to educate our citizens, serve our families, build our communities, and cooperate with our educators—are valuable ones; and it is an obligation for us to widen their scope. Every school district is beset by needs that a Congress P.T.A. can help to meet.

Let us give particular attention this year to organizing new units. Schools that do not have associations ought to be convinced that they should have them. We can easily reach our goal of 6,000,000 memberships for 1949 if we can put an active Congress P.T.A. in every public school that lacks one. Let us resolve to organize 1,000 new units this year! With hard work and persistent application, we can do it.

Let the new year establish a great new record!

Mrs. Walter H. Beckham
National Chairman
Committee on Membership

- To our celebrations on February 17 let us invite our neighbors, including members and nonmembers alike. If we do our part well, this Founders Day of 1949 will attract millions of newcomers to our membership, adding their welcome strength to ours for the enduring good of children and youth everywhere.

- Let us then make February 17, 1949, a day long to be remembered in the annals of child welfare so that in times to come those who follow us will say: "These were men and women consecrated to a great undertaking; they knew what needed to be done and did it. We are happy to be members of the same organization."

Faithfully yours,



Mabel H. Hughes
President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers



FOUR-POINT PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

1. School Education
2. Health
3. World Understanding
4. Parent and Family Life Education

SUGGESTIONS FROM A NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

PRESCHOOL SERVICE

STATE and local chairmen of preschool service committees are among those "Key People" for whom the Four-Point Program is full of meaning and challenge. Many interesting and helpful study group programs can be planned around the topics of school education, health, world understanding, and parent and family life education. You will find that parents, grandparents, and teachers of little children are all eager to learn more about each of these broad subjects. And don't forget the college campus parents—and babies! Each of the four areas, as is demonstrated below, provides a challenge that will stimulate animated discussion.

School Education

The universal trend toward extending school education demands that parents of small children be taught the purposes and advantages of nursery school and kindergarten programs. You can help them to acquire this information in a number of interesting ways:

1. Invite teachers of kindergartens and nursery schools to talk to your study group and answer questions.
2. Plan supervised trips to kindergartens and nursery schools where your members can observe the programs in action. Arrange for a discussion period with the teachers after the children have been dismissed.
3. Survey the need for more nursery schools or kindergartens in your community and enlist public opinion in support of establishing these facilities.
4. Study and support legislation that will provide state aid for kindergartens, suitable preparation and qualification of kindergarten teachers, state supervision and guidance, and state registration of all private nursery schools.
5. Study and discuss recommended books, leaflets, radio programs, and films.

Health

Parents are always eager to do all they can to safeguard the mental and physical health of their children. Help them to know more about the following subjects:

1. Clinics, nursing service, and all other health services available in your community.
2. New health practices and preventive measures.

3. The importance of dental care during preschool years.
4. Rheumatic fever—that increasing menace to child health.
5. Infantile paralysis.
6. Nutrition and home nursing.
7. The need to extend clinics and maternal and infant health and welfare services, especially in rural areas.

Be sure to plan some of your programs around these subjects, and invite a doctor, a school nurse, a psychiatrist, a dentist, a nutritionist, a county health officer, the director of the nearest rheumatic fever clinic or institute, and the local chairman of health and Summer Round-Up to discuss these vital topics with your group.

World Understanding

Plan at least one meeting that will awaken parents to the many opportunities they have to plant seeds of friendliness, tolerance, cooperation, good will, neighborliness, and world friendship in the minds and hearts of little children through:

1. Everyday family and community relationships.
2. Parental example and attitudes.
3. Use of appropriate children's books, games, toys, pictures, music.

This program could be presented in a panel discussion with a kindergarten teacher, a children's librarian, and school music and art supervisors. An attractive exhibit might be arranged.

Parent and Family Life Education

Build programs that will help parents to understand themselves and their children; programs that will have practical value for everyday problems of child development as well as for the larger problems of a world not yet geared to peacetime living. Make full use, in these programs, of the preschool study course articles and outlines in the *National Parent-Teacher*. Timely topics might include:

1. Habits and Attitudes—How Are They Acquired?
2. Character Development; Religion in the Home.
3. Discipline—Why and for Whom?
4. Home Safety—Whose Responsibility?
5. Housing—What Makes a Home?
6. Homemaking and Family Fun.
7. Responsibilities and Joys of Parenthood.
8. Money Management—A Partnership Affair.
9. The Family as Citizens in the World Community.

—Mrs. Carl R. Brister

FIVE CENTS!

Did you know that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers promotes its enormous child welfare program on an annual income of only five cents per member? Ours is probably the only organization in existence whose national dues are so low! With costs as generally inflated as they are today, it is almost incredible that the National Congress accomplishes so much with only five-cent membership. And do you realize that all the officers and chairmen of the Congress serve in an unpaid, volunteer capacity at national, state, district, and local organization levels? These facts are good talking points in building good public relations, and should be emphasized to your own members and to the public in general.



WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-

News from Alaska

The city of Anchorage, Alaska, with a population of 3,000 has a P.T.A. membership of more than 400 and has set its goal at 1,000. The enthusiastic participation of this P.T.A. in the life of its community appears to be a good indication that it will meet this goal as it has met others.

Under the direction of its president, Mrs. Hugh Dougherty, who was elected last spring, the Anchorage P.T.A. has been a force to spearhead all community efforts toward the welfare of its youth. Its committees regularly study all legislation affecting the local scene, especially that which relates to education, health, and recreation facilities.

Recently it publicized a school bond issue by holding open meetings to explain the proposed legislation and building program. Part of this program of expansion is now being carried out with the establishment of preschool education as a regular part of the public school system. In October, 300 children were already registered for the preschool program.

Last summer, the P.T.A. cooperated with the American National Red Cross chapter by helping to provide parent supervision for all the swimming classes at Lake Spenard; it also contributed \$600 worth of books to the school library and collected \$500 for the United Nations Appeal for European children.

Members have been giving their attention to the evaluation of comic books and to the selection of wholesome films for Saturday matinees at the local theater. They have also been occupied with setting up an organization of room mothers, as well as with projects that emphasized the Four-Point Program.

Last October, for instance, in observance of United Nations Week, they sponsored a poster and essay contest on the theme, "United Nations and World Understanding." High school, junior high, and elementary school pupils competed for the awards. The winning posters were displayed in local shops, and the winning essays were read over local radio stations.

Meetings are held twice a month. One is regularly a business meeting and one is an open meeting devoted to educational talks, films, and social activities. That the Anchorage P.T.A. is a sociable and hospitable organization was demonstrated when its membership chairman, Mrs. Orrin Nichols, last year found housing for 33 new teachers.

The city of Anchorage is indeed fortunate in having an organization so active and forward-looking as its parent-teacher association.

Twenty Years of Home-School Cooperation

The twentieth anniversary celebration of the Henry Whittemore School in Waltham, Massachusetts, was an occasion on which the parent-teacher association paid tribute to the school faculty and to its own past presidents, all of whom had worked harmoniously together since the founding of the school.

Tokens of appreciation were presented to Effie G. Higgins, principal throughout the twenty years, and to five other teachers having the same length of service. Honorary membership cards were issued to the superintendent of schools, to his assistant, and to the ten men who had served as president of the P.T.A. during the past two decades.

Fathers of the Waltham community have always taken an active part in parent-teacher work. At the time of the anniversary observance, all local offices and the council presidency were held by men.

World Friendship in Action

Children in at least one elementary school in Greece have more notebooks and pencils this year than they had last year. The world friendship committee of the P.T.A. at Peyton Randolph elementary school in Arlington, Virginia, undertook to furnish the village school of Anarrahi, Kozani province, with a variety of supplies ranging from soap and paper clips to cameras and dictionaries.



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• Roswell, New Mexico, has a reputation for mixing gracious hospitality with the consideration of serious problems. At the fall district conference held there November 10, 1948, Marguerite M. Scheid, National Congress field consultant, and Mrs. J. P. Brandenburg, president of the New Mexico Congress, conferred with state and district parent-teacher leaders regarding the present teacher shortage and the state education survey recently completed. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Brandenburg; Mrs. Earl Corn, state treasurer; Mrs. Scheid; and Mrs. Lee Corn, state secretary. Seated: Mrs. George C. McFadden, district president; Mrs. W. C. Taylor, council president; and Mrs. George Wilcox, state chairman of parent education.

TEACHER GROUPS Are Doing



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The committee estimated the retail value of these supplies at about \$300, but ingenuity and the cooperation of various local sources kept the cost down to \$30.

Besides being an exercise in giving, this project was the occasion for some interesting detours in the education of Peyton Randolph school children. For two weeks the curriculum centered on the study of Greece and its culture and customs. This study was enlivened by the use of maps, photographs, examples of Greek handicraft and fancy work, dolls and costumes, and special texts borrowed from public and private libraries and from the Greek embassy.

One very interesting P.T.A. meeting grew out of the project. Local Greek children sang and danced in native costume, and the documentary film, Hungry Minds, was shown to illustrate the devastation of educational facilities in Europe.

The Peyton Randolph P.T.A. feels that this enterprise has enabled its school to act out, if only on a minute scale, the principle that nations of the world have responsibilities to each other, and that the good of one is deeply involved with the good of all.

● Pictured opposite is the combined exhibit of the New Jersey Parent-Teacher and the National Parent-Teacher at the recent convention of the New Jersey Education Association in Atlantic City. The importance of these publications in furthering parent-teacher work was discussed by, left to right, Mrs. Oliver S. Walling, office director; Mrs. Maurice Attales, vice-president; and Mrs. Horace J. Brogley, president of our New Jersey Congress. By means of this attractive booth the New Jersey Congress was able to bring the Four-Point Program vividly to the attention of this important gathering of educators.

Another newcomer among local associations in the unorganized territory of the National Congress is the Waller Air Force Grade School P.T.A. at Trinidad, British West Indies. This grade school has been established in connection with the Waller Air Force Base, and the new P.T.A. was organized with 25 charter members.

* * *

The school of instruction sponsored last November by the Richland County Council of Parents and Teachers in Columbia, South Carolina, was a rewarding and informative experience for everyone who attended. Present were 99 registered delegates representing 16 of the 21 Richland County units, and nine delegates representing units in Lexington County.

The agenda included study of the *Parent-Teacher Manual*, a discussion of recreation, a demonstration of an executive board meeting to explain the local unit packet, and a publication conference.

Congress publications formed the basis of all the instruction, and were displayed during the meeting.

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NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

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PHOEBE APPERSON HEARST—PATRON OF PROGRESS

By Nancy Flynn Kelsey

PHOEBE APPERSON was a pretty, brown-haired girl, and she had her dreams; but she never dreamed how swiftly the road from Franklin County, Missouri, would open for her out into the larger world.

As far back as she could remember, she had felt a great interest in and love for people. She liked to see them, to know them, to help them; and this applied to people of all kinds and in all conditions. She had a great inner urge that kept driving her to learn more of the wider world in which she felt she would one day take her place, and she planned her course and pursued it with the will power handed down from her Virginia ancestors.

Phoebe did not know exactly what would eventually take her away from Franklin County, but she was sure that something would. She studied hard at school, and, eager to share what she learned with others, she became a teacher. Becoming a good enough teacher, she thought, might be the way that would help her to fulfill her dreams.

But dreams sometimes go capricious and take surprising turns. Hers did. Her teaching career suddenly ended, for the good and rather common reason that she fell in love. The man who altered her career was George Hearst.

George was twenty years older than Phoebe. He too had been brought up in Franklin County, but he had followed the trail to the West when Phoebe was still a child. He worked hard and did well in that golden land of opportunity, and when at last he came back for a visit with the home folks, the attractive young schoolteacher won his heart. The Appersons objected to the match on the grounds that he was too old, and that life in the West would be hard and uncertain; but Phoebe knew her own mind.

George Hearst had been fortunate. He was one of those who had struck pay dirt in the Comstock Lode, and he had become part owner of the largest vein. Ten years of the ups and downs of mining and prospecting in the West had made him a quiet man, so quiet that he failed to explain to the Appersons that he could take good care of their daughter. The fact was that he already had a sizable fortune. Phoebe herself wanted no explanation. She saw in George Hearst the man with whom she could be happy, who would understand her ambitions, and who would make their realization possible. She was in love and she had a strong will, and that was enough.

Westward Ho!

Phoebe and George were married at Stedville, Missouri, on June 15, 1862, and they set out at once on their honeymoon trip, the roundabout way to California.

Phoebe was dazzled by all they saw—her first glimpse of the hurrying bigness of Chicago and New York, the surging Atlantic, and even the lazy little steamer that carried them down the east coast. The magic of the tropics, with their lush vegetation and gorgeous birds, thrilled her. The



Phoebe Apperson Hearst

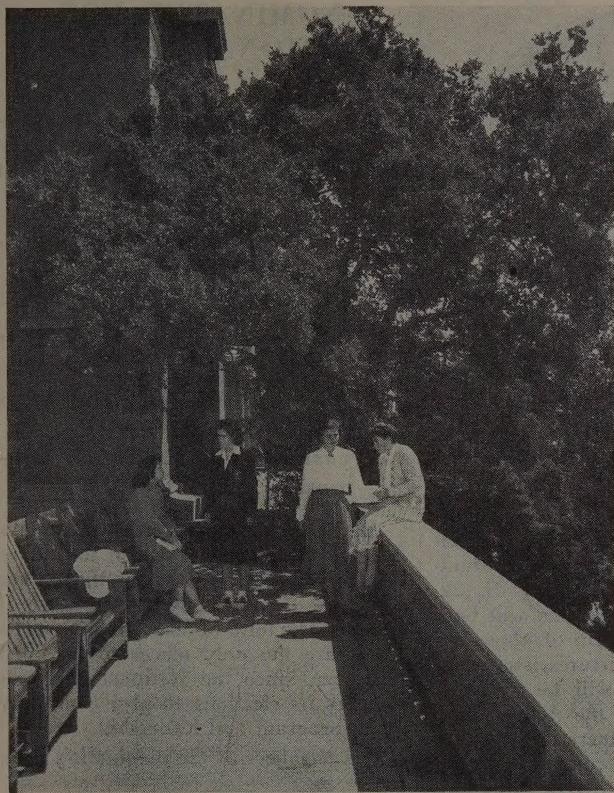
hazardous and uncomfortable trip across the Isthmus of Panama was not a hardship to her; it seemed the adventurous following of the trail made by Balboa in 1613. The blue Pacific brought them to the jagged outlines of the California coast, and when the little ship docked at San Francisco Phoebe felt that she had reached home.

George took his bride to the new Lick House for the first days before they went to live at the Stevenson House, where their only child, William Randolph, was born. Then George bought a home on Rincon Hill and installed his little family there. The place had a garden, and there were long French windows opening on a gallery with an ever changing view of San Francisco Bay.

In the Wake of History

As the years passed, George Hearst's fortune steadily increased. He became one of the West's foremost mining authorities and was known as a man of ability, integrity, and generosity. In 1888 Senator Miller of California died in office, and Governor Stoneman appointed George to fill the vacancy.

Living in Washington, Phoebe was thrilled again by the feeling that she was following in the footsteps of the history makers. The broad avenues and stately buildings of the capital city suggested to her the nation's ideal of justice and liberty for all, the ideal in her own heart that guided her in all her activities.



© Berkeley Commercial Photo Co.

Phoebe did not seek the full glare of the limelight of publicity, but neither did she shrink from the responsibility of a senator's wife to take her place in Washington life. She took it with high hopes. Now at last she had scope for her activities. Her house became one of the cultural centers of Washington, and her drawing room was a gathering place for the kind of people who could help her to carry out her aspirations for the improvement of the lives of everyday people in her enlarging world.

The dreams of the young Missouri girl were still growing, and they continued to grow throughout her life. Perhaps it was because they encompassed all humankind that so many of them came true. As Phoebe Apperson the girl had wanted to share her meager learning with her neighbors, so Phoebe Apperson Hearst the woman wanted to share her now considerable learning and possessions with humanity itself.

When Senator Hearst passed away in Washington in 1891, she returned to California to live. She was accompanied on her journey by her son and also by some high government officials, but it was nevertheless a very lonely trip. She knew that now she would have to derive her comfort from work on the plans that she and George had made together. Gradually she put them into operation and began to see her larger dreams come true.

The University of California occupied a small and ill-assorted group of buildings at the foot of the Berkeley hills. She offered to help develop the campus on the condition that a permanent and adequate plan be worked out. The regents of the university agreed, and in 1896 she awarded a prize for the campus design submitted by Emile Benard of Paris.

● The majestic oak tree that spreads its sheltering branches over the young women in this picture was planted by National Congress leaders on May 24, 1927, in honor of Phoebe Apperson Hearst on the campus of the University of California. Today it is a living memorial to the great-hearted co-Founder of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

All in all, she contributed a total of more than six million dollars to the university she had taken to her heart. In addition to buildings, developments, and endowments for scholarships and fellowships, she gave manuscripts, works of art, scientific apparatus, archeological specimens, basketball and tennis courts, and swimming pools. She also contributed an even more valuable thing—her personal friendship to faculty and students.

The Birth of the Congress

In 1897 Phoebe Apperson Hearst shared with Alice McLellan Birney in the founding of the National Congress of Mothers, which later became the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. This was the climax of her work in educational circles, work that grew out of her profound wish to help parents and children everywhere. In the *Golden Jubilee History*, published by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, we find these words about Phoebe Hearst:

With only one child of her own, she became a godmother to scores of others. . . . Mrs. Hearst was no long-distance benefactor. Wherever she bestowed her gifts she became an active patron. This was especially true of the kindergartens which she formed and maintained—seven in all—first in San Francisco and then in Washington. She gave not only of her money and her excellent mind to these schools for little children but also of her effort. Herself a parent and a teacher, she realized, as Alice Birney did, that the early education of a child is often the determining factor in his whole future life. When she went with her husband to Lead, South Dakota, . . . she organized a kindergarten for the children of the miners and established a free public library for their parents.

In honor of the memory of this woman whose vision and generosity contributed to the founding of the National Congress of Mothers, a tree was planted on May 24, 1927, on the campus of the University of California, by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Today that tree is a large and gracious oak, a living tribute to the large and gracious spirit of Phoebe Hearst.

Her eager enthusiasm went everywhere, from establishing kindergartens to rebuilding a university campus, from the fight for women's suffrage to her private charities, which were as numberless as they were nameless. Yet despite the breadth of her interests she remained at heart the unspoiled girl from Franklin County, Missouri, who wanted to share with people because she loved them.

* When she was a white-haired, straight-shouldered old lady, dreams and visions still glowed in her eyes. Her mind and heart had refused to grow old. There was still much that she wanted to do, and she kept working at it to the last.

A tablet on the campus of the University of California reaffirms the ancient proverb that a good woman's works will praise her in the gates. Stately buildings there are silent memorials, even as is the service that they render. Her earthly span seems short enough, but it is no measure of her life. She put her dreams to work, and they go on and on.

Brotherhood Must Be Lived!

ESSENTIAL to the full development of our Four-Point Program is the realization that the goal of world understanding must be approached with small steps. Brotherhood Week will be nationally observed this year during the week of February 20-27. This observance should renew in all of us the sharp awareness that the most important of the many small steps toward world understanding is the application, in immediate and everyday relationships, of individual understanding.

One week of brotherhood, however, is not enough. In these times of world tensions, it is not enough to mark seven days as the part of the calendar that shall be free from the blemish of prejudice or of hostility. If brotherhood is to exist among individuals in order that it may eventually exist among nations, it dare not make itself a seasonal relationship.

The National Conference of Christians and Jews sponsors Brotherhood Week and can furnish many program suggestions that will be effective in advancing the cause of American democracy not only during that one week but throughout the entire year. These suggestions can be obtained by writing to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.

Let Brotherhood Week be our reminder that brotherhood must be *lived* the year round.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Executive Committee

*President, Mrs. L. W. Hughes,
Tennessee*

*First Vice-president, Mrs. John E.
Hayes, Idaho*

*Second Vice-president, Dr. Herold C.
Hunt, Illinois*

*Secretary, Mrs. Gertrude E. Flyte, South
Dakota*

*Treasurer, Dr. John W. Headley,
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Mrs. Robert F. Shank, Indiana

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Mr. Knox Walker, Georgia

Members-at-large:

Mrs. Carl R. Brister, New York

Mrs. R. N. Gould, Nebraska

Mrs. James Fitts Hill, Alabama



THE Executive Committee of the National Congress will meet in Montgomery, Alabama, on January 21, 22, and 23. High on the agenda will be a discussion of the problem of objectionable comics, motion pictures, and radio programs. Attention will be given to the recent findings of the Action Committee and to a consideration of what remains to be done to combat unwholesomeness in these forms of entertainment.

Attempts are being made in certain quarters to confuse issues in two ways. It has been made to appear that recent clean-up campaigns are directed against all comics, and it has been suggested that criticism of the comics implies that they are the primary, if not the only, cause of juvenile delinquency. Please bear in mind that it is only the *objectionable* comics—those that emphasize violence, sadism, and immorality—that your organization proposes to outlaw. Further, we are fully aware that these comics dealing with crime and sex are not the only factors contributing to juvenile delinquency. You may be assured that the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has no intention either of threatening the freedom of the press or of over-simplifying the problem of delinquency. It does, however, firmly intend to sustain action that will remove from the publishing and entertainment markets any and all forms of printed

NOMINATED FOR NATIONAL OFFICES

The nominating committee of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has made the following nominations for the four national offices to be filled at the annual convention in May 1949:

*President, Mrs. John E. Hayes,
Twin Falls, Idaho*

*First Vice-president, Mrs. Newton P. Leonard, Providence,
Rhode Island*

*Secretary, Mrs. Edgar F. Dixon,
Little Rock, Arkansas*

Treasurer, Dr. Ralph H. Ojemann, Iowa City, Iowa

All the candidates are well qualified for the offices for which they have been nominated, and all of them have expressed their willingness to serve if elected. The term of office is three years. These are the only offices to be filled this year, since the National Congress staggers its elections to give continuity to its program and leadership.

The members of the nominating committee are:

*Chairman, Mr. Knox Walker, Atlanta,
Georgia*

Mrs. Fred C. Barber, Concordia, Kansas

Mrs. J. J. Garland, Menlo Park, California

Mrs. Clifford N. Jenkins, Roslyn Heights, New York

Mrs. William Kletzer, Portland, Oregon

1949 CONVENTION

The next annual convention of the National Congress will be held at St. Louis, Missouri, May 16-18, 1949. Official headquarters will be at the Jefferson Hotel.

matter and programs that can be judged detrimental to the mental health and morals of children and youth.

Watch your *National Congress Bulletin* and *National Parent-Teacher* for current information and help.